



# THE COMMUNICATOR

[www.blissfieldschools.us](http://www.blissfieldschools.us)

## BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION

"Blissfield Community Schools provides a learning environment that challenges all students to become lifelong learners and productive citizens."



### *From the Superintendent*

**Welcome Back...**With summer recess drawing to an end, it is time to begin making preparations for the 2009-10 school year. In an attempt to assist families better complete the myriad of school documents required each fall, *Student Information Packets* were mailed home on Friday, August 28th. Please review these documents before completing and returning them with your child on their first day of school, **Tuesday, September 8th**. If you have questions regarding these or other school matters, our offices are open each weekday from 7:15am to 3:30pm for your convenience.

Blissfield Community Schools are committed to providing an outstanding educational experience for each of our 1,263 students. As students return this fall, they will be welcomed by a variety of new enhancements including Elementary Mathematics and High School Social Studies materials, technology upgrades, and Elementary playground improvements provided through a collaborative effort with our Blissfield Parent-Teacher Organization. Special thanks are also extended to Blissfield Foundation for Educational Excellence and Blissfield Rotary Club for their continued support of our educational initiatives.

Improvements to our school buildings and district grounds not only enhance the learning environment for our students and staff, but also reflect the ongoing "Commitment to Excellence" of our Facilities staff. Recent enhancements to lighting, roofing, security, painting, and overall building cleanliness at each of the schools is to be commended. However, there is much more needing to be done. During this past year, community surveys were conducted to determine our constituents' preferences and priorities in addressing our aging school facilities. Recommendations to renovate each of our existing schools were then reviewed by our Board of Education and shared with architects to determine the costs associated with each building improvement. During the "back to school" events listed below, these proposed enhancements will be displayed along with copies of our 2008-09 District and Building Annual Reports. This information is also available at our district website at [www.blissfieldschools.us](http://www.blissfieldschools.us).

#### Wednesday, September 2nd

Freshman Orientation	1:00pm	High School
Grades K-5 Open House	4:00pm	Elementary School
Grades 6-8 Open House	6:00pm	Middle School

On behalf of the Board of Education, Administration and our outstanding teaching and support staff, we certainly look forward to working with you during the coming school year, and thank you for allowing Blissfield Community Schools the opportunity to provide your child the "Royal Treatment" they deserve.

Sincerely,

*Scott D. Moellenberndt*

## Blissfield Community Schools Upcoming Events Calendar

Sept 1-3	Inservice/Staff Work Days
Sept 2	Freshman Orientation 1:00 p.m.
	Elementary Open House 4:00-6:00 p.m.
	Middle School Open House 6:00-8:45 p.m.
Sept 7	Labor Day
Sept 8	1st Day of School for Students
Sept 11	High School Student Picture Day
Sept 15	Middle School Student Picture Day
Sept 17	Constitution Day
Sept 19	Sports Hall of Fame Dinner
Sept 21	Board of Education Meeting
Sept 30	Elementary School Student Picture Day
	Student Count Day
Oct 6	Lenawee County Marching Band Festival
Oct 9	Progress Reports Distributed
Oct 13	MEAP Testing Begins Grades 3-8
Oct 17	District Marching Band Festival
Oct 19	Board of Education Meeting
Oct 22	MEAP Testing Concludes
Nov 5-7	Middle School Musical
Nov 6	End of First Marking Period
Nov 12-13	High School Play
Nov 14	Middle School Solo and Ensemble
Nov 16	American Education Week Begins
	Board of Education Meeting
Nov 18	Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences
Nov 18-19	1/2 Day for Students
Nov 20	Parent/Teacher Conferences
Nov 26-27	Thanksgiving Recess
Dec 8	Second Grade Music Concert
Dec 10	Fourth/Fifth Grade Choir Concert
Dec 11	Progress Reports Distributed
Dec 15	MS Band and Choir Concert
Dec 17	HS Band and Choir Concert
Dec 21	Board of Education Meeting
Dec 23	Winter Recess Begins
Jan 4	School Resumes
Jan 18	No School for Students
	Board of Education
Jan 21	1/2 Day Student Exams
	1/2 Day Records Day
Jan 22	1/2 Day Student Exams
	1/2 Day Records Day
Jan 25	Second Semester Begins

## Athletic Schedules

Community members are encouraged to visit our district website at [www.blissfieldschools.us](http://www.blissfieldschools.us) for all of our 2009-10 athletic schedules. Click the Online Resources button then move to the bar labeled "HighSchoolSports.net", where you will find all Middle and High School sports schedules.

## Attendance Procedures

Please call the appropriate school office as soon as possible if your child will not be in attendance on a particular day. If you need to call before office hours, please leave a voice mail message stating the student's name, grade, and reason for not attending school.

### Arriving late or leaving early

If your child arrives to school late, please go to the building office and sign in. If your child needs to leave school early, please call before school or send a note with your child stating the time your child needs to be excused and the reason why your child will be leaving early. All students must sign out in the office before leaving school.

## School Visitations

All parents and guardians are welcome at Blissfield Community Schools at any time. For the safety of our entire school community, parents and visitors entering the building **MUST** sign in at the main office. Thank you for your cooperation.

## eSchool Home Access

In order to provide our student, parents and teachers current information and services, Blissfield Community School utilizes eSchool Home Access Center. Home Access Center is an Internet service offered by Blissfield Community Schools to help keep parents informed of their child's academic performance at school. Using a simple login, parents have access to grades and assignments for each course their child is enrolled in at school. Access information is available through the office of the school your student attends.

Communication between parents and teachers is vital to student success in the school setting. Home Access Center is one of many tools we use at Blissfield Community Schools to accomplish this task.

## Emergency Closings & Delays

If school must be closed or delayed due to inclement weather or other conditions, the school will notify the following radio and television stations.

WABJ - 1490 AM Radio  
WQTE - 95.3 FM Radio  
WLEN - 103.9 FM Radio  
WTVG - 13 ABC Television  
WTOL - 11 CBS Television

You will also be notified via the Honeywell Instant Alert System at your home, work, or cell phone number and computer email address upon request. To enroll or update your information, contact the office of the school your child attends.

## Contact Information

### Blissfield Community Schools

Scott D. Moellenberndt, Superintendent  
630 S. Lane Street, Blissfield, MI 49228  
Phone: 486-2205 Fax: 486-5701  
Hours: 7:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

### Blissfield Elementary School

Dee Crane, Principal  
640 S. Lane Street, Blissfield, MI 49228  
Phone: 486-2811 Fax: 486-3348  
Hours: 7:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

### Blissfield Middle School

Mark Willson, Principal  
1305 Beamer Road, Blissfield, MI 49228  
Phone: 486-4420 Fax: 486-4758  
Hours 7:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

### Blissfield High School

Jerry Johnson, Principal  
Cris Rupp, Assistant Principal  
630 S. Lane Street, Blissfield, MI 49228  
Phone: 486-2811 Fax: 486-4749  
Hours 7:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Athletics**, Steve Babbitt, District Athletic Director 486-4725  
**Facilities**, Tom Kasefang, Director 486-2148 ext 219  
**Food Services**, Melissa Ward, Director 486-2148 ext 222  
**Technology**, KC Hufford, Director 486-2148 ext 302  
**Transportation**, Cris Rupp, Supervisor 486-3803

## Medications at School

Written permission from a parent/guardian and from the student's physician is required before school personnel may administer medication. The necessary forms are available at each school office for parents/guardians/physicians to fill out. The forms state the medication that is required, the exact dosage of the medication, and the time and dates medication should be taken. All medication is stored and given to the child in the office. No medication, including aspirin, will be given to any student without the necessary forms. Michigan law requires that new forms be filled out each school year. If you have any questions, please contact the office of the school your child attends.

## Drug and Weapons Free Schools

In accordance with Federal Law, the Board of Education prohibits the use, possession, concealment, or distribution of drugs and weapons on school grounds, in school, school-approved vehicles, or at any school-related event. Compliance with this policy is mandatory for anyone on school premises. Students who violate this policy will be subjected to disciplinary action, in accordance with due process and as specified in the student handbooks, up to and including expulsion from school. When required by Michigan law, Blissfield Community Schools will also notify law enforcement officials.

## Food Services Meal Prices

Prices for meals are as follows:

Breakfast - Grades K-12	\$1.50
8 oz. Milk Sold Separately	\$ .50
Elementary Lunch	\$2.10
Middle and High School Lunch	\$2.50
Middle and High School Bar Lunch	\$2.75
Adult Lunch	\$3.50

If you have further questions, please contact Food Service Director, Melissa Ward at 517-486-2148 ext. 222.

## Community Tennis Courts and All Weather Track Use

The community is welcome to utilize our community tennis courts along with our all weather track between the hours of 6:30a.m. and 11:30p.m. In order to preserve its surfaces we ask that bikes, strollers, golf clubs, wagon, skateboards, remote control toys, or objects with wheels be prohibited. Also, please do not walk animals on school premises. We appreciate your understanding in this matter and hope you will use these public facilities to enhance your daily exercise regime.

## Special Education Act

Public Act 198 of 1971, the mandatory Special Education Act, establishes the right to handicapped person(s) from birth through the age of 25, to equal opportunity within the public schools. **THIS MEANS THAT HANDICAPPED CHILDREN DO NOT NEED TO WAIT UNTIL THEY ARE SCHOOL AGE TO BENEFIT FROM SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES.** It is important that help be obtained for the handicapped at the earliest possible age. In the State of Michigan, this help is free and is available through your public schools. A team of educational specialists evaluates the child to determine the type and degree of disability and the best kind of program placement. This evaluation often includes a medical specialist. Pre-primary Special Education services are available for:

*Emotionally Impaired - Mentally Impaired - Physically and Otherwise Health Impaired (POHI) - Hearing Impaired - Visually Impaired - Speech and Language Impaired - Specific Learning Disabled*

If you know a preschool child who may benefit from these services contact:

**Mrs. Dee Crane**  
**Elementary School Principal**  
**Blissfield Community Schools**  
**640 S. Lane Street**  
**Blissfield, MI 49228**  
**517-486-2811**

## Grievance Procedures...

**for: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act Of 1973 Section 1**

Any person believing that the Blissfield Community School district or any part of the school organization has inadequately applied the principals and/or regulations of (10) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, (23) Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972, and (3) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, he/she may bring forward a complaint, which shall be referred to as a grievance, to the local Civil Rights Coordinator at the following address:

**Mrs. Donna Bunde**  
**Middle School Counselor**  
**Blissfield Community Schools**  
**1305 Beamer Road**  
**Blissfield, MI 49228**  
**517-486-4420**

## Athletic Tickets

Ticket prices for athletic events this year are as follows:

All Varsity sports - \$5 for adults, \$4 for students; All Junior Varsity sports - \$4 for adults, \$3 for students. Tickets for middle school athletic events are \$3 for adults, \$2 for students. Season sports passes are available in the high school athletic office. Senior citizens 62 years and older are admitted free to all athletic contests.

## Notice of Nondiscrimination Policy

It is the policy of Blissfield Community Schools that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination during any program or activity or in employment.

Any questions concerning Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, should be directed to:

**Mrs. Donna Bunde**  
**Middle School Counselor**  
**Blissfield Community Schools**  
**1305 Beamer Road**  
**Blissfield, MI 49228**  
**517-486-4420**

Inquiries related to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap, should be directed to:

**Mr. Jerry Johnson**  
**High School Principal**  
**Blissfield Community Schools**  
**630 S. Lane Street**  
**Blissfield, MI 49228**  
**517-486-2148**

## Public Facilities and School Building Act

On December 23, 2002 Public Act 628 of 2002 was signed into law. This law amends the School Building Act, Public Act 306 of 1937 by requiring the inspection of **all** school construction projects, including outbuildings such as storage buildings, bus garages, and athletic facilities, and that the buildings are in compliance with the Stillie-DeRossen-Hale Single State Construction Code Act and the Fire Prevention Code, Public Act 207 of 1941. School projects which are being constructed, remodeled, or reconstructed are subject to inspections and plan review by the Michigan Bureau of Construction Codes and Fire Safety.

Therefore, **all projects involving buildings and grounds must first be fully approved before any work is done.** This includes, but is not limited, to the following: new construction, alterations of existing buildings on grounds, moving soil, locating fields, etc. Each specific request must be submitted in writing to the Director of Facilities and Maintenance on a Buildings/Grounds Alteration Request Form. The request must be accompanied by permits, applications, specifications, and any other information important to the project.

Coaches, club sponsors, class mentors, department heads, educational staff, outside organizations, and service groups need to fill out the Buildings/Grounds Alteration Request Form. These forms may be picked up at the office of the Facilities and Maintenance Supervisor located in the High School, 630 S. Lane Street, Blissfield, MI 49228. Completed forms must be submitted to Mr. Thomas Kasefang, Facilities Director.

## Bus Route Information

Student bus information for those residing within the Village limits including their bus number, anticipated pickup time, and bus stop location will be posted in the Blissfield Advance on Wednesday, August 26th. Students living beyond the Village limits have individualized bus stops established directly outside their home address. If you have questions regarding your child's bus transportation, please contact the following individuals:

**Cris Rupp, Transportation Supervisor**  
**Judy Marcus, Transportation Assistant**  
**Blissfield Community Schools**  
**630 S. Lane Street, Blissfield, MI 49228**  
**Phone: 486-3803 Fax: 486-4749**  
**Hours: 6:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

## Pest Management Program Advisory to All Parents

As part of the Blissfield Community Schools district pest management program, it is our goal to reduce pesticides as much as possible. While it may be necessary to apply a pesticide, our program **does not** rely on routine pesticide application. You have the right to be informed prior to any pesticide application being made to the school buildings and grounds during the school year. In certain emergencies, (example: bee nests) pesticides may be applied without prior notice; however, you will be notified following any such application. You will receive advance notice of the application of a pesticide, other than bait or gel at your child's school. This advance notice of the application will be given 48 hours before the application. Blissfield Community Schools will post this notice at all entrances and the common areas located adjacent to the building office and on our school web page. Parents are also entitled to receive this notice by first-class United States mail postmarked at least 3 days before the application. If you would like to be notified by mail please fill out the form below and return it to:

**Mr. Tom Kasefang**  
**Facilities Director**  
**Blissfield Community Schools**  
**630 S. Lane Street, Blissfield, MI 49228**  
**Phone: 486-2148 ext. 219 Fax: 486-5701**  
**Hours: 7:15 - 3:30 p.m.**

### Application of Pesticide Notification:

Student \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Board of Education Meetings

August 17, 2009  
September 21, 2009  
October 19, 2009  
November 16, 2009  
December 21, 2009  
January 18, 2010  
February 15, 2010  
March 15, 2010  
April 19, 2010  
May 17, 2010  
June 21, 2010  
July 19, 2010

School Board Meetings will be held the third Monday of each month in the high school cafeteria.

## Board of Education Members

Noel Eisenmann	President
Larry Bausman	Vice President
Brian McEwan	Secretary
Linda Hamann	Treasurer
JoDee Friess	Trustee
Chad Horky	Trustee
Vicky Lombard	Trustee